

# MARIN COUNTY CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY

## NORTHERN MARIN COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES JULY 28, 2003

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**Members Present:** Judy Arnold, Phil Brown, Denise Athas, Michael DiGiorgio, Sue Lattanzio, Joann London, Bernard Meyers, Cynthia Murray, and John Reuscher  
**Members Absent:** Kenneth Harth, Max Hopkins, and Mark Birnbaum  
**Staff Present:** Dean Powell, Marin County Department of Public Works; and Bonnie Nelson, Congestion Management Agency Consultant  
**Others:** Craig Tackabery, Marin County Department of Public Works; Eric Anderson, Marin County Bicycle Coalition; Patsy White; and Don Wilhelm, resident

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The meeting was convened at 4:10 p.m.

### 1. INTRODUCTIONS

### 2 APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES OF JUNE 24, 2003

The committee accepted the June 24, 2003 action minutes without modification.

### 3. PRESENTATION ON THE LOCAL STREET AND ROADS ELEMENT AND REVIEW OF GUIDANCE AND DIRECTION OF THE CMA/BOS JOINT COMMITTEE

Staff presented information on the guidelines and general direction of the CMA/BOS Joint Committee for the Local Streets and Roads element of the draft Transportation Sales Tax Expenditure Plan. On behalf of the Joint Committee, staff was seeking community input on: (1) the preliminary allocation of 25-35% of the sales tax revenues towards the Local Streets and Roads element; (2) the long and short lists of Roadways of Countywide Significance; and (3) any feedback on the other recommendations made by the Public Works Directors concerning Local Streets and Roads issues.

Committee discussion and public comment topics included: (1) whether developers contribute funds for Local Streets and Roads projects when new development is built; (2) how sales tax revenues for the Local Streets and Roads element are distributed to jurisdictions with voter-approved bond measures funding similar projects; (3) the success of the local bond measures to leverage funds; (4) a request for information on projects contained in Novato Measure B approved in 2000; (5) the actual gap between funding needs and projected revenue for the Local Streets and Roads element and, in recognition of the success of local road bond measures, the possibility of keeping the Local Streets and Roads allocation low and moving more funds to transit; (6) whether an Expenditure Plan can guarantee a "maintenance of effort" for existing local funds dedicated to transportation; (7) other funding sources, including the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Proposition 42, and the ability to establish flexibility in the Expenditure Plan allocation pending actual revenue realized from these sources; (8) how street sweeping could be considered under the Local Return element; and (9) what "consideration of bike and pedestrian improvements" means in implementing Local Streets and Roads projects. (Information on these topics can be found in the July staff report and the "Frequently Asked Questions #2" handout in the August staff report.)

*Sense of the Committee* – The committee arrived at a general consensus on the following:

- The committee will provide input on the preliminary allocation range for the Local Streets and Roads element after reviewing all four draft Transportation Sales Tax Expenditure Plan elements.
- The committee needs more information on the actual gap between funding needs and projected revenue for the Local Streets and Roads element, as well as more information on Novato Measure B approved in 2000, before input on the preliminary allocation range is provided.
- The long list of Roadways of Countywide Significance should be amended to:

- Add Olive Avenue
  - Remove Glen Road
  - Add Bugeia Lane/Bahia Drive
  - Add Center Road
  - Add Sutro Avenue
- The short list of Roadways of Countywide Significance should be amended to:
- Add Atherton Avenue
  - Change Novato Boulevard to Novato Boulevard/South Novato Boulevard

#### **4. PRESENTATION ON THE SCHOOL ACCESS ELEMENT AND REVIEW OF GUIDANCE AND DIRECTION OF THE CMA/BOS JOINT COMMITTEE**

Staff presented information on the guidelines and general direction of the CMA/BOS Joint Committee for the School Access element of the draft Transportation Sales Tax Expenditure Plan. On behalf of the Joint Committee, staff was seeking community input on: (1) the preliminary allocation of 10-15% of the sales tax revenues towards the School Access element; (2) a sense of local priority on the various components of the School Access element; and (3) any feedback on folding the School Pool program into the Safe Routes to School program (SR2S).

Committee discussion and public comment topics included: (1) the importance of the School Access program to Novato based on the large number of school-aged children in the area; (2) how the lack of crossing guards at busy intersections was cited as the most common reason why parents did not let their children walk or ride a bike to school and that the City of Novato provides funding already for crossing guards; (3) the importance of implementing capital improvements identified by the SR2S program, such as safe pathways and sidewalks, curb cuts, crosswalks, and signals, as a priority; (4) the importance of school buses, shuttles, and carpools within the greater Novato community; (5) the effectiveness of the SR2S in reducing vehicle trips; (6) whether the SR2S program needs the same level of funding throughout the life of a sales tax; (7) the level of local participation in the Ride & Roll free bus pass for students program; (8) the need to provide bike racks at schools; and (9) the importance of providing flexibility in an expenditure plan by avoiding specific dollar allocations for programs and projects as opposed to percentage allocations. (Information on these topics can be found in the July staff report and the “Frequently Asked Questions #2” handout in the August staff report.)

*Sense of the Committee* – The committee arrived at a general consensus on the following:

- The committee will provide input on the preliminary allocation range for the School Access element after reviewing all four draft Transportation Sales Tax Expenditure Plan elements.
- The committee generally supported the various components of the School Access element, including folding the School Pool program into the SR2S program as suggested by the Joint Committee.

#### **5. FOLLOW-UP TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FROM LAST MEETING**

Staff confirmed that the Frequently Asked Questions handout would be expanded and distributed with the next month meeting packet to reflect questions raised during today’s meeting.

#### **6. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Member London distributed an information handout on improved senior transportation services provided by EZ Rider and the Novato Human Needs Center.

#### **7. CONFIRM/SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION**

The next committee meeting is on Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 p.m. at the Marin Community Foundation (Hangar 5, Hamilton Field).

Chair Murray adjourned the meeting at 5:57 p.m.